Tom-file



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We make Indiana a cleaner, healthier place to live.

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. Jovemor

Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

12/15/05

100 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 (317) 232-8603 (800) 451-6027 www.idem.IN.gov

Paul Anderson, Ph.D. Illinois Institute of Technology 3300 South Federal Street Chicago, Illinois 60616

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Re: Predictive Modeling Expert Review Panel

On behalf of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), I would like to thank you for participating on the predictive modeling expert review panel.

Indiana's Lake Michigan shoreline is one of our state's most outstanding resources, and it is our goal to ensure that residents and visitors are able to fully enjoy it. The agency has received funding through the federal Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act, which is enabling Indiana to continue to develop and improve its Lake Michigan Beaches Program. We are working hard to enhance *E. coli* monitoring and improve our mechanisms for notifying the public when beach advisories occur.

Your assistance in reviewing the predictive models funded through Indiana's Lake Michigan Beaches Program has advanced our efforts to ensure that the public receives accurate and timely information when there are potentially unhealthy water conditions at Lake Michigan area beaches. Thank you, again, for your participation in this important public health and environmental project.

Phomas W. Easterly

Commissioner

cc: Alex Da Silva, IDEM Northwest Regional Office